Application No.: 10/823,729 Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 Attorney Docket No.: 042341

Art Unit: 2818

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 12, 28, 34 and 35 are pending. Claim 3 has been amended herein. Support

for the amendment is at least found at pages 22 to 35 of the specification.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the claims as presented herein.

In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, it is submitted that all

pending claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the

rejection and an indication of allowability of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application,

the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated

below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate

extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect

to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

/MICHAEL J. CARIDI/

Michael J. Caridi

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 56,171

Telephone: (202) 822-1100

Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

MJC/dlt

- 6 -